Next Token Generation

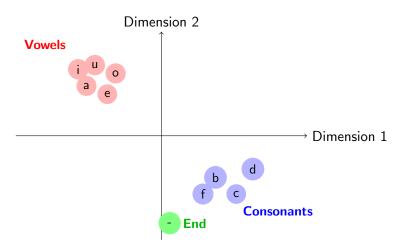
Nipun Batra

IIT Gandhinagar

July 29, 2025

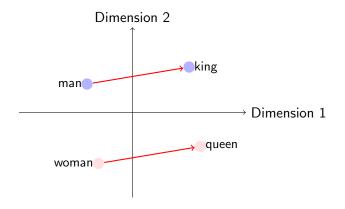
Vocabulary Size:

26 letters + 1 hyphen = 27 characters



Word2Vec Analogy Example

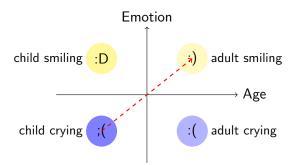
Classic Word2Vec Relationship



Relationship: queen \approx king - man + woman

Analogy with Emotions

Emotional Expression Analogy



Relationship: child crying = child smiling + adult crying - adult smiling

Embedding Matrix/Table Concept



Embedding Table Structure

27 × K Embedding Matrix

Char	D1	D2		DK
а	0.2	-0.1		0.8
b	-0.3	0.5		-0.2
С	0.1	0.3		0.4
÷	:	:	· · .	:
Z	0.7	-0.4		0.1
-	0.0	0.9		-0.5

Key Point

Each character maps to a K-dimensional vector.

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 - ▶ MLP: (context_size \times K) \rightarrow hidden \rightarrow ... \rightarrow 27

Example: 2D Embeddings for "abi"

Embedding Matrix (27
$$\times$$
 2)

Input: X = ["a", "b", "i"]

$$\begin{bmatrix}
D1 & D2 \\
a & 0.2 & -0.1 \\
b & -0.3 & 0.5 \\
... & ... & ... \\
i & 0.1 & 0.3 \\
... & ... & ... \\
z & 0.7 & -0.4 \\
- & 0.0 & 0.9
\end{bmatrix}$$
[0.2, -0.1]
[-0.3, 0.5]
[0.1, 0.3]

Concatenate the Embeddings

Feature Vector Construction

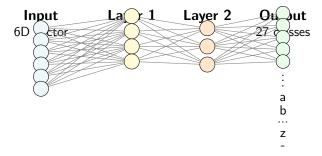
6D feature vector

Result

3 chars \times 2D embeddings = 6D input to neural network



Multi-Layer Perceptron Architecture



$$\mathcal{L} = -\sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{c=1}^{27} y_{i,c} \log(\hat{y}_{i,c})$$
 (1)

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 - 4. Repeat for all training examples

Sampling from the Learned Model

Test Input: "abi"

Predicted Probability Distribution

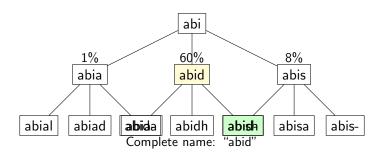
Next Char	Probability	Next Char	Probability
а	0.01	n	0.05
b	0.01	О	0.02
С	0.03	р	0.01
d	0.60	q	0.00
е	0.02	r	0.03
f	0.01	S	0.08
-	0.05	z	0.01

Most Likely Continuation

"abi" \rightarrow "abid" (60



Generation Tree Structure



Recursive Process: Sample next character, append, repeat until end token

Standard Softmax:

$$P(y_i) = \frac{e^{z_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^{27} e^{z_j}}$$
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 - $ightharpoonup T
 ightharpoonup \infty$: More uniform (random)

Temperature Variations

 $\textbf{Context: "abi"} \rightarrow \text{Next character probabilities}$

Char	T=0.5	T=1.0	T=2.0
	(Low)	(Default)	(High)
а	0.001	0.01	0.08
d	0.95	0.60	0.25
S	0.01	0.08	0.12
h	0.005	0.03	0.09
-	0.02	0.05	0.11
others	0.015	0.23	0.35

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► **High T:** Creative, diverse

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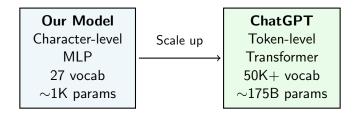
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 - Billions of parameters instead of thousands

From Character-Level to ChatGPT



Same fundamental principle: Predict the next token!